

Memorandum

To: Chair and Commissioners

Date: October 11, 2004

From: Diane C. Eidam
Executive Director

File No: Ref. Agenda 2.2c.(2)
ACTION

Ref: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING –
WIDENING CHESTNUT AVENUE TO FOUR LANES BETWEEN SHAW AND
BULLARD AVENUES. (TCRP #97.2) (FINAL EIR) RESOLUTION E-04-30**

Issue: Should the Commission approve the City of Fresno's Final Environmental Impact Report for widening Chestnut Avenue to four lanes between Shaw and Bullard Avenues in Fresno County?

Recommendation: Commission staff recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-04-30. As a responsible agency, the Commission must approve this Resolution prior to allocating funds for capital purposes on the proposed project.

It should be noted that the project is a part of TCRP #97.2 a series of traffic operational improvements around California State University, Fresno and the Save Mart Center; the \$6.05 million in proposed improvements would be funded solely from TCRP funds. The City of Fresno must demonstrate to the Commission that other funds are available to complete the project or await the availability of TCRP revenues for new allocations.

Background: This resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Final EIR has been completed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

- City of Fresno Project (Project) – a widening Chestnut Avenue to four lanes between Shaw and Bullard Avenues in Fresno County.

Significant and Unavoidable Impacts: When the City of Fresno approved its Final EIR, it stated that the proposed mitigations in its Mitigation Monitoring Program would reduce potential significant and unavoidable impacts to less than significant.

The Final Focused EIR has been transmitted to Commission staff. The Commission's approval and the resulting filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Approval of Project for Consideration of Future Funding For the City of Fresno Project To Widen Chestnut Avenue to four lanes between Shaw and Bullard Avenues In Fresno County

Resolution E-04-30

- 1.1 WHEREAS**, City of Fresno has completed a Final Focused Environmental Impact Report in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission Environmental Regulations for the following project:

City of Fresno Project (Project) –Widen Chestnut Avenue to four lanes between Shaw and Bullard Avenues in Fresno County

- 1.2 WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Focused Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS**, the City of Fresno has proposed mitigations in its Mitigation Monitoring Program that would reduce potential significant and unavoidable impacts to less than significant.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission, as a responsible agency, finds that the:
- City of Fresno Project to widen Chestnut Avenue to four lanes between Shaw and Bullard Avenues in Fresno County is approved for future consideration of funding.